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ACIS - 1374/85

7 August 1985

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MEMORANDUM FOR: EA/DDCI

FROM: C/ACIS

SUBJECT: Proposed Talking Points for the DDCI Address

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1. This memorandum responds to your request of several weeks ago to provide an integrated set of talking points for the DDCI to use at an anniversary some week and one-half from now.

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2. Attached is this set. This text may be slightly longer than the DDCI cares to use in fifteen minutes, but I tried hard to keep this broad in scope so as to be germane, but short enough to be punchy.

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3. I included as many components or elements of US intelligence in this process as I could imagine. I used all of the agencies of the Monitoring Working Group, including the ICS and NRO. Moreover, I used DI and DDS&T, as well as Comptroller components. I left out no important ideas, but I did not make every change which was provided to me. I sent a copy late today back to US intelligence; they may have other good ideas. I will forward them.

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4. I hope this is helpful and useful. This is the best we can do under the circumstances. I'll be glad to revise it as may be desired. If there is anything more I can do to assist you here, please call and let me know.

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Attachment:

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Proposed DDCI Talking Points
Regarding Satellite Reconnaissance and National Security (15 mins.)

- This anniversary is a great occasion. All of you, and the history we created with satellite reconnaissance, altered this nation forever.
- Satellite reconnaissance can be said rightfully to be one of the most significant developments in the history of US intelligence. It revolutionized our profession and this nation's national security agenda.
- The significance comes from its impact on US national security across the board; from knowledge of foreign military forces, to arms control monitoring, and even to economic developments.
- The very nature of reconnaissance from space ensures that this impact is very great. Satellite orbits provide global coverage in relatively short periods of time (even by today's standards) and they revisit areas at regular intervals.
- Satellites are one of the best investments this nation has ever made; the cost is great but the payoff, in pictures and signals, is mind-boggling.
- Before satellites, US policymakers were limited to aerial pictures with all of the restrictions that aircraft and the other technologies of the 1950s brought with them. Thirty-to-forty years ago, it used to take days to fly an aircraft mission and tell a policymaker in Washington what we had learned. Today we do that within hours and not just with the Soviet Union but all over this earth.
- These steps were possible because of a unique relationship between government, private industry, and the scientific-technical community. That unique relationship has fostered some of the most remarkable technical advances in our lifetimes, advances you helped create and are on exhibit today.
- The exploitation of these modern technologies, in the creation and operation of US collection systems, has been primarily responsible for a major revolution in this nation's understanding of our actual and potential adversaries on this planet.
- One of the greatest contributions of satellite reconnaissance has been stability between the two nuclear-armed rivals for dominance on this

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- Concurrently, technology is galloping ahead almost faster than we can comprehend. Technology was our secret to success in the past, and it--both collection and exploitation--will be our secret to whatever success we create in the future.
- This day is a fitting opportunity to recognize that, through the years, working together, we have made this nation stronger and richer. We have done a lot but more can be done. I congratulate you on your contributions to our past successes, and I challenge you to help solve our current problems. Our tasks ahead are daunting but within reach.

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